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Mr. D. B. Macdonald, M. R.

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Hartford
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Budapest April 20th 1911

Dear MacDonald! I hasten to answer your letter of 6 c. which came to my hand this morning. It cannot be but a mistake, that I told you something about the sentiments of B. Never I had the opportunity to talk with him ~~or~~ personally of you. Since 1902 when I was in Cambridge to take my D. Litt. I saw him the first time again 1909 in Copenhagen. There I was sure not to have heard from him a word in your behalf. And I am convinced that the very supposition of such sentiments is mere ~~phantasy~~ ^{fancy} without any foundation. For my part, I never wrote or told you a word which could evoke or give support to such supposition. Since I wrote you lastly some very sympathetic reviews of my Vorlesung appeared in German Magazines.

As to the meaning is, that the men are not allowed to count glorifying epithets of God, which God himself had not used in his Revelation. You ~~cannot~~ may not give to God attributes not mentioned in the Koran. This is a very spread dogmatic view. It is not allowed to invent epithets of God, be it so glorifying as possible. The ideas are based on Scripture. Ibn Hazm exaggerated the application of this law. You can find the whole apparatus in my *Zāhiratun* p. 143-152. You must write me when it is more agreeable to you to have your new book reviewed, in the *ThLZ* or in the *RH Rev.*? Did you read the new book of Nicholson: Translation of Hujwiri's *کشف المحجوب*? Very important for the knowledge of the development of the Sufistic ideas.

With compliments von Haus zu Haus

yours faithfully J. Goldschmidt